



The Blurb



Volume 51 Number 3

Public Service Since 1949

March 2001



HEN WINTER COMES...



PRING IS NOT FAR
BEHIND...



S IS ANTENNA RAISING

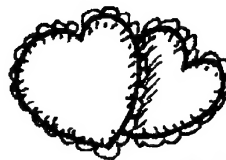
TIME...



HE ~~CHINESE~~ YEAR
OF THE SERPENT...



ALENTINE'S DAY...



ASHINGTON AND



INCOLN'S BIRTHDAY



THEN THERES
ST. PATTIES DAY

The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. **ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!**
Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the *first* non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—registration finishes at 6 p.m. doors close at 6:30 PM-*SHARP!*

CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

Internet Web site: <http://www.phil-mont.org>

E-mail: info@phil-mont.org

2-meter repeater: 147.03 MHz p/1 91.5

70-cm repeater: 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

Simplex: 147.51 MHz

24-hour club information at W3AA: 215-448-1139

STATIONS

W3AA - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I; Manager: W3STW

The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate.

W3AA packet BBS frequency: 144.99 MHz: w3aa@w3aa.sepa.pa.usa.noam

W3AA e-mail: w3aa@phil-mont.org

W3EM - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz repeater - Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: W3AOK, William H. Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Phila., Pa 19128;

215-487-9472

billpopovic@msn.com — n3fvi@w3aa.sepa.pa.usa.noam

VICE PRESIDENT: KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Ave. Wyncote, Pa. 19095-2903; 215-572-5238

SECRETARY: WA3KIO, Fred Rice, 1933 Greymont ST., Phila., Pa 19116-3804; 216-673-2854

e-mail: wa3kio@arrl.net

TREASURER: K2BN, Mike Tannenbaum, 545 Cardinal Drive, Dresher, PA 19025; 215-542-5991

k2bn@agtannenbaum.com packet: K2BN@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

DIRECTORS

WU3I (02); W3RM (02); W3STW (01); W3BBB (01); N3MT (01); N3XKE (02); W3WF (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives: W3IIN; **Audit:** KE3OP; **Awards:** W3WF; **Blurb folding:** WB3KOJ & WB3KOH; **Budget:** K3KUD; **Directory:** WB3KOJ & W3IIM; **DX:** Open ; **Education:** W3CH; **Emerg.Coop.:** N3XKE; **Field Day:** WU3I; **Internet:** W3IIM; **Membership:** W3LEN & KE3ZY; **Net Control:** KB3IV; **Publicity:** W3RM **Program:** W3WF; **Public Service:** W3WF; **Refreshments:** W3AOK; **Repeater:** W3BBB; **Skywarn:** WX3PHI; **Special Events:** open; **Sunshine:** WU3I; **Youth:** KE3ZY; **TVI:** W3VVS; **VE Program:** ND3Q; **W3AA Trustee:** WU3I; **W3AA Station Manager:** W3STW; **Welcome:** K3CJ.

Blurb STAFF

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Deadline: To be assured of publication in the month that you want, all copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.

Net Schedule

Thursday CW Practice Net at 20:00— 147.030MHz FM (NOT DURING JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST)

Sunday morning 2 Meter Net at 09:30 — 147.030 Mhz FM

Sunday morning “10-on-10” Net at 10:00 —28.393 Mhz SSB (+ or - for QRM)

Sunday morning 75 meter Net at 10:20 — 3.993 MHzSSB

Secretary, Fred Rice WA3KIO



February Director's Meeting Minutes

Due to Valentine's Day, the meeting held at the Franklin Institute, was kept short. KB3IV, K2BN, KB3CWE and WA3KIO were in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Ed. Mike stated that dues are down for January compared to last year likely due to the fact that notices went out a month later than last year. Financially, we are in good shape.

Ed gave a report on the repeater, but since W3BBB wasn't there, I asked Jim for a written report. It will follow the minutes.

Future topics for upcoming meetings were discussed. The topic for March will be Sunspots. April will be Pizza Night from the MS Society. May will be Digital modes by WA3KIO and June will be Amateur Television by Ron, K3ZKO. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Here is W3BBB's report:

The Repeater has had a problem of solder degradation in the area of the final transistor mounting tabs. In effect, this reduces RF output to half or less than normal and puts a strain on the remaining transistor. This has been repaired several times, but could continue to be a problem. Installation of the new Micor final and exciter should eliminate the problem for good.

Construction of the pull-out chassis for the RLC2A controller board is complete with programming in process. BBB is attempting to make provisions for future expansion while keeping the changes transparent. Same courtesy tones, same control codes, same results. The major change will be in the reliability of the RF and control circuits. If you can't notice the completed changes, then BBB will have done his job well.

New UHF final, exciter, etc. are still expected shortly. The suppliers are involved with work in Phila. where their schedule has been delayed several times. They will be bringing our new equipment with them when they come to work here. When changes are complete, the Blurb will have a complete list of User Functions and available codes. (Phone patch directions, Emergency dialing instructions, etc.) We have spent about \$ 2000 for new and used equipment. It should last us for many years with little maintenance.

N3CB has offered to make a professional video presentation of the completed project. This will be available for presentation to other radio clubs, etc. The intent of the committee is to present this video as an example of what can be done with minimal money, volunteer labor and pride in the outcome.

"There's so much pollution in the air that if it weren't for our lungs there'd be no place to put it all"
Robert Orben

February General Meeting

Ed, KB3IV opened the meeting at 8:10. DUES ARE DUE. With no new business, the meeting was turned over to Larry W3UY for a talk about the LST 325. For those not able to attend the meeting and interested in the LST 325, Larry has sent several URL's related to the presentation.

www.palosverdes.com/lst887/lst325.html (Note lst is not first st but lower case "l". www.xmission.com/~jcander/lst325 ("~" is the wavy uppercase figure to the left of No.1. There should be a lot of pictures at this site. www.xmission.com/~jcander/lst325/route325 www.cargolaw.com/presentationlst325html www.uslst.org Scroll down to "log of lst 325" and click In the search portion of your computer internet display, enter lst. Scroll down and click on "LST 494" Look for "Other interesting sites" Click thereon and the look for "Discussion Group" and click. This may take alot of looking through the numerous posts but there is a lot of interesting info. www.navsource.org/archives/10/1016033501.jpg www.navsource.org/archivew/10/1016032507.jpg www.navsource.org/archives/10/1016000000.jpg
73.s Fred, WA3KIOs

For Sale

1. Remote controlled Differential Tuner —\$100
2. Ameritron AL80A Amplifier 10-160 Meters — \$500 firm
3. SSTV SYSTEM Pasokan SSTV Card and Software Snappy Image Grabber Installed and Setup in 486DX50 with 8 Meg RAM WIN 95 272 meg HD with 200 MEG Free for images Monitor Mouse Keyboard All Installed and Ready to GO All Software and manuals included. You must wire plug for your Radio Price 150.00 NEG Contact Steve WU3I 215-535-8061 or wu3i@arrl.net Tnx.

185th Monthly Phil-Mont VE Test Session Statistics for January, 2001

SEVEN (7) candidates took eight (8) elements. We had four (4) new amateurs with two (2) upgrades.

The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads (ND3Q).

Members are: Bob Freer, W3YLT; Jim Mc Closkey, NS3K; Mike Morgan, W7MM

Exam Dates for the year 2001:

March 1.; April 5.

VE Examination Sites

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must show two other types of ID. Bring the original, and a copy of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 2001 test fee is \$10.00.

THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

Monthly, 1st Thursday — Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q. 215-879-0505, day. 215-448-1139 24-hours. Doors open at 6PM and close sharply at 6:30 PM.

BELLMAWR, NEW JERSEY

Diane Nafis, 856-227-6281. Testing is the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. They meet at the Bellmawr Municipal Complex, Browning Rd. and Lewis Ave., one block off Black Horse Pike, Route 168.

BRISTOL, PA

George LeNoir, 215-943-4886

LEVITTOWN, PA

David L. Heller, 2125-946-1040

LINWOOD, PA (Commercial and Amateur)

TELFORD, PA

Joseph Burgess, 215-723-6697

WARMINSTER, PA

Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ, 215-343-3494

WILMINGTON, DE

Giselle Wells, 302-478-2757

DAVID CLARK TO RESURRECT ROUND-THE-WORLD ATTEMPT

Within hours of a maritime disaster in which his sailboat sank and his beloved canine companion Mickey was lost at sea, 76-year-old David Clark, KB6TAM, was ready to once again set sail. Despite the devastating loss, Clark has vowed to continue his effort to become the oldest person to sail solo around the world.

Clark may have ham radio to thank for being alive. According to media accounts, when Clark realized he was in trouble, he used his onboard ham gear to call for help.

Following his rescue February 7, Clark told his wife, Lynda, that he would complete his journey "if I have to swim." Clark had begun the final leg of his round-the-world sail when his vessel, the Mollie Milar, sank two days after leaving Cape Town, South Africa. He had hoped to reach Ft Lauderdale, Florida—where he began his journey in late 1999—by mid-May, a sail of approxi-

mately 7000 nautical miles from South Africa.

Clark now is back in Cape Town, thanks to several South African hams, and he's making plans to restart his adventure with another vessel.

Lynda Clark said that since speaking with her husband by telephone, she's been able to get more accurate details on what happened the night of February 7, when the Mollie Milar began taking on water and her husband and Mickey, a west highland terrier, had to abandon ship in rough seas.

Clark is said to have put out a distress call via Amateur Radio, and his call was picked up in Cape Town and relayed to maritime rescue authorities. "It was very fortunate that there was a ship close by," she said.

The container vessel Emonte was equipped to mount a rescue effort. The Emonte launched a lifeboat with a crew of four, which subsequently capsized. But David Clark and Mickey were not aboard at that point.

see Clark continued on page 6

ATLANTIC DIVISION HAMFEST

CALENDAR 2001

- Mar 31-1 Apr + Greater Baltimore
Hamboree, Timonium, MD (MD
State Convention)
- May 6 + Antietam Radio Asoc,
Hagerstown, MD
- May 6 + Warminster ARC, Wrightstown,
PA
- Jun 1-3 + Rochester Hamfest/Atlantic
Division Convention, RARA,
Rochester, NY
- Jun 9+ Columbia-Montour ARC,
Bloomsburg, PA (EPA Section
Convention)
- Jul 1+ Murgas ARC, Wilkes-Barre
(Dallas), PA
- Jul 15+Mid-Atlantic ARC, Kimberton,
PA
- Aug 12+ Lancaster ARC, Cheektowaga,
NY (WNY Section Convention)
- Sep 29+ ARA of the Southern Tier,

DX

MAURITIUS, 3B8. Jacky, 3B8CF, is usually QRV almost daily on 30 and 20 meters using CW between 0230 to 0400z.

RODRIGUES ISLAND, 3B9. Robert, 3B9FR, can usually be found on 20, 17 and 15 meters between 1530 to 1930z.

JAMAICA, 6Y. The DXpedition University group are QRV until March 6. They are signing 6Y8A, WT6G/6Y5, WA6O/6Y5, K0COP/6Y5, W6NS/6Y5, N6XG/6Y5 and K2KW/6Y5 with four stations on 160 to 6 meters using mostly SSB, with some CW and possibly PSK31. QSL 6Y8A via WA4WTG, others via homecalls.

SPRATLY ISLANDS. Sally, KM5EP, Dennis, AF7Y, Jerry, WB9Z, Luis, XE1L, Darryl, AF7O, Dan, NA7DB and Mike, N7MB, are planning an operation as 9M0M during the first week of March. QSL via K7XN.

EAST MALAYSIA, 9M6. Before and after their Spratly Islands operation, look for 9M6DBT and 9M6MBT to be QRV from Sabah. QSL both calls via WN7J.

see DX continued on page 8

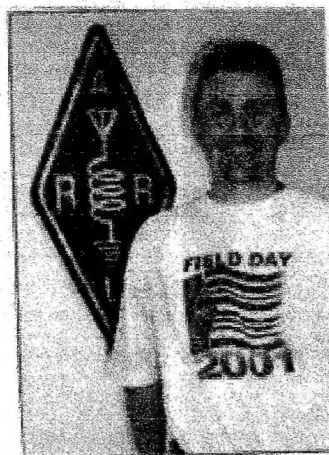
The PREZ SEZ



Field Day 2001

T-shirts Field Day 2001 is on June 23 and June 24 as always, the fourth full weekend in June. We are planning to order T-shirts for Field Day soon. We need to know your size. If you are planning to attend this year please let Steve WU3I, or me know ASAP. If we get them soon enough, we may print the Phil-Mont Logo on the back.

The price will be \$5 to \$10 depending on the order quantity. Hope to see you there.



W

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A

Trustee: Steve Hoch, WU3I

The International Voice of The Franklin Institute Science Museum

Nick, AA3WA, here. I'm new to W3AA and am amazed what impresses kids about the station. A group of ten or eleven year olds came walking into the station as only kids can.... at the top of their lungs. "Wow! Look at that!" one says quietly at 123 dbA, I checked for broken glass and thought: "Man are we lucky! Such a small one to be impressed by the station, what maturity, what intelligence, but then again we DO have lots of neat equipment". One thousand milliseconds later she exclaims: "Look at all the clocks. What are they for?"

Another wants to know if that's me in the picture (Ben Franklin). I tell her: "No!" and she says: "Well, it looks like you!" Well, I think: "I DO wear glasses".

While I'm listening in on a conversation on 10 meters, another two or three schoolchildren arrive and I try to impress them: "Hear that? That man is talking from the Netherlands. I hear her deadpan answer: "What's the Netherlands?"

One thing that does impress the kids is the "Walkie-Talkie" on the antiques display. I tell them it had an antenna that was about six feet long. "Wow!", I hear and I say that the heavy batteries were carried on the operator's back... more wows! I would really like to know more about this unit.

You meet a lot of people in the shack, too. A couple from two different states met on the Internet and then met in person for the first time and toured the Franklin Institute. Another visitor, a recent grad (electrical engineering), came with his sister (No, I'm his mom she corrected me... and I made her day). He told me all about his first job in Delaware and when he left he was ready to buy his first rig. I should have been in sales. Well, maybe I exaggerate a bit.

I also met Derrick Pitts, the astronomer from the Institute. He was being video taped just below the entrance to our shack and didn't seem to mind stopping to talk a bit. I also met Charles Penniman, Jr, formerly of the Institute and now a volunteer. He gave me some good advice on the kind of 35 mm camera to buy. And if that isn't enough, Dan (K3HES) sometimes comes into the shack wearing his RED clown nose and keeps me entertained! Life is not dull on the fourth floor. Well, that's the guest column... and the best of 73's to you all! Happy Dxing!

If you liked this column put a dollar in an envelope and send it to the treasurer of the club as a donation for W3AA. If you didn't like this column, put \$5 in an envelope and send it to the treasurer of the club as a donation for W3AA and beg Steve to continue writing it. Please include with your \$5 (checks accepted) an essay of twenty-five words or less telling me why you didn't like this column and telling me what should have been in the column. Letters may be printed at a future time, but then again they may not.

Clark continued from page 4

see Clark With the initial rescue effort foiled and thinking the ship might not be able to rescue him after all, Clark prepared his own lifeboat for launch, Lynda Clark said. By then, the ship was within a few feet of Clark's 44-foot steel-hulled sailboat and again ready to attempt a rescue. A line was thrown, and Mickey was put into a sling to bring him aboard first, but he wriggled free and was lost at sea.

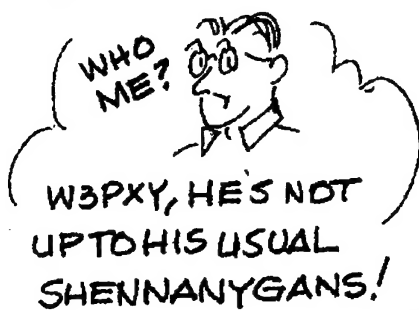
For his part, Lynda Clark continued, "David had all he could do to get himself up the side of that ship at this point, and limited time to do it."

"We are totally indebted to the people on the ship who rescued David and brought him safely back to East London port," Lynda Clark said. "And we can't express how much we appreciate the ham operators and all the people of South Africa who have loved and supported David and are now offering him so much assistance."

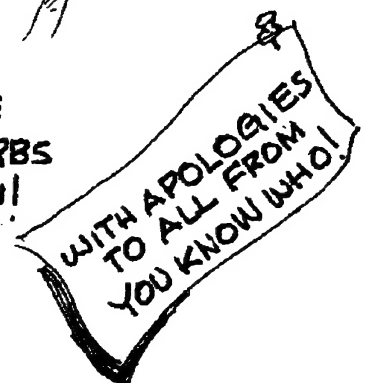
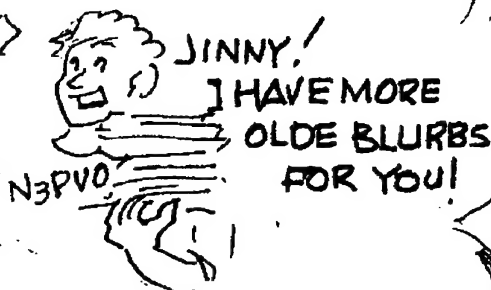
Hams in East London paid Clark's fare to Capetown and arranged for a hotel. Another group of hams is said to be looking after Clark in Cape Town.

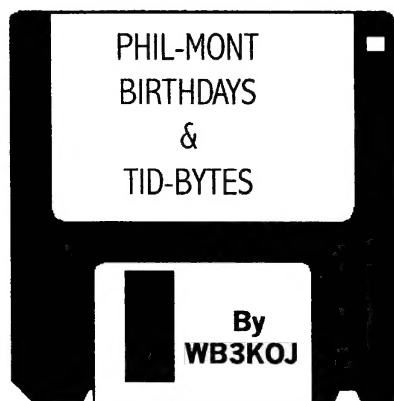
"He will get to Ft Lauderdale to complete the goal, we just don't have the date yet," Lynda Clark said this week. For more information on David Clark's journey, visit <http://www.dclark.com> and <http://www.captainclark.com>.

Sam's HALF ACRE WHAT'S GOIN ON?



SOME PHIL MONTES JUST CAN'T LIFT A MIKE ANYMORE

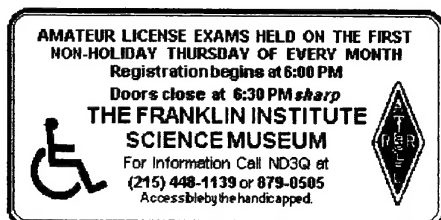




MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Elaine Spencer (XYL W3BBB)
Dave Witkowski - N3KGG
- 09 Fayette Toren (XYL N2MT)
- 11 Gale Ackerman (XYL N3DO)
- 14 Peg Lamberti (XYL KE3NP)
- 15 Dottie Scialdone-Maresca -
K3YPH
- 18 Ed Losco - N3DLV
- 21 Ben Roeshman - W3LKI
- 23 Henry Platt - W3UI
- 25 Perry Blum - W3PTB
Richard Citrino Jr. - KB2TEZ
- 27 William (Red) MacKenzie -
W3RED
- 28 Steve Rubin - KB3CFS
Barbara Stein (XYL KB3AFH)
- 31 Ted Lada - N3FTZ

LAST CALL IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY THE END OF FEBRUARY YOUR NAME WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE 2001 P.M.R.C. DIRECTORY AND YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MORE BLURBS.



DX continued from page 5

THE GAMBIA, C5. DL2OE and DL7CM are QRV as C56/homecalls until March 5. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

CUBA, CO. The No-Name DX Group are QRV as T48RAC. They will participate in the CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest, and in the ARRL DX Phone contest. QSL via VE3ESE.

IRAN, EP. Hamid, EP3HR, has been active on 12 meters. Check 24950 kHz between 0900 to 0930z. QSL via I2MQP.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, H4. Bernard, H44MS, has been active on 12 meters starting around 1000z. He has also been active on 75 meters on 3799 kHz after 1100z. QSL via DL2GAC.

JAPAN, JA. Masa, JA6GXX, will be QRV from Meshima, Danjo Archipelago, IOTA AS-056, from February 27 to March 9 and then from March 21 to 30. Activity will be mostly on 20 and 15 meters. QSL via bureau.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. JD1BCK has been active on 10 meters usually after 0230z. QSL via JMITUK.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Bruce, AC4G/KH9, has been QRV on 28018 kHz between 0945 and 1030z. QSL to home call.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Rick, P29KFS, expects to be active from the PNG station P29PNG in the CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest. QSL via operator's instructions.

PALAU, T8. Yukio, JA6ENF, is QRV on 80 to 10 meters as T88NF until February 26. QSL to home call.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Alex, V47KP, will be QRV in the CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest. QSL via K2SB.

MONTERRAT, VP2M. Art, N2NB, and Woody, K2UU, are QRV as VP2MDY until March 1. This includes an entry in the CQ WW 160-Meter Contest. QSL via NW8F.

MEXICO, XE. The Mexican Radio Club Satellites station XE1RCS will be QRV in the CQ WW 160-Meter contest. QSL via XE1KK. (ARRL)

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, W3WF
Phone 610-323-1050
Packet: aa3p@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam
E-mail: aa3ep@aol.com

Russ Stafford, W3CH
Phone: (610)631-3401 ext. 902
Packet: w3ch@w3ch.sepa.pa.usa.noam

Public Service Forms Available

Public Service Forms are available on Line. Thanks to **Charlie, W3WF** and **Peter, KB3DFQ** you may download any of the following sign-up forms for the year 2000 public service events.

MS Walks

Chester County Bike Tour
MS 150 City to Shore 2000
the url is:

<http://metro-comm.freethinkers.net>
(thanks to W3CH)

Upcoming Public Service Events

MS Walks

Sunday April 22

Ridley Creek State Park
Moorestown High School
Kerr Park - Downingtown

May 6

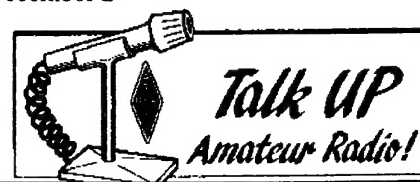
Phila. Art Museum
Elmwood Park Zoo - Norristown
Tyler State Park
Main Street - Voorhees
Boardwalk in Atlantic City

MS 150

September 29-30

Ryan's Run

December 2



S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Calendar for March 2001

1	Thur	VE exams - doors close at 6:30 PM Code practice 8PM-W3STW
2	Fri	
3	Sat	
4	Sun	(2M net -N3OWM) (75M net- W3PWG) (10M net-W3AA)
5	Mon	
6	Tues	Elizabeth Barrett Browning born 1806
7	Wed	Board meeting at the home of K2BN
8	Thur	Code practice 8PM-W3RM
9	Fri	Full Moon
10	Sat	
11	Sun	(2M net-WA3NSP) (75M net-NG3P) (10M net - W3AA)
12	Mon	
13	Tues	
14	Wed	General meeting at the Franklin Institute, refreshments at 7, meeting starts 7:30
15	Thur	Code Practice 8PM-WA3NSP
16	Fri	West Point started, 1802
17	Sat	St. Patrick's Day
18	Sun	(2M net -KB3IV) (75M net - KB3IV) (10M net - W3AA)
19	Mon	Swallows return to San Juan Capistrano
20	Tues	
21	Wed	
22	Thur	Code practice 8PM- W3AOK
23	Fri	
24	Sat	New Moon
25	Sun	(2M net - N3FTY) (75M net- WA3KIO) (10M net- W3AA)
26	Mon	
27	Tues	
28	Wed	
29	Thur	Code Practice 8 PM - W3STW
30	Fri	
31	Sat	

Activities for March 2001

Net Control stations should read the following announcements before asking if there are any more announcements for the Net

March 1 - VE testing session at the Franklin Institute. The 2001 ARRL VE test fee is \$10.00.

March 7- Board meeting at the home of K2BN

March 14- General meeting at the Franklin Institute — Topic is Sunspots

-The April Board meeting will be held at the Franklin Institute before the General Meeting. All are welcome.

-The April General Meeting will be the MS Pizza party.

“DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT”—for the courtesy ☺!

FIRST CLASS MAIL



A Publication of
The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc.
c/o 641 Kismet Road Philadelphia, PA 19115-1114

The Blue

ROBERT K. FREER
1031 Anna Road
Huntingdon Valley PA 19006-8610

W3YLT
R

